

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
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C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 4279

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, US, ET
SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: REQUEST FOR MULTILATERAL
INFORMATION ON HOST GOVERNMENTS

REF: A) 77 STATE 159747 B) 76 STATE 37591 C) 76 ADDIS ABABA 2140

1. POST MLO CONTINUES TO BE POLITICAL COUNSELOR HERBERT S.
MALIN.

2. POST REPLIES TO QUESTIONS PARA 7, REF B, REMAIN VALID
WITH FOLLOWING CHANGES, GEARED TO INDIVIDUAL PARAS REF C:

A. DELETE LAST TWO SENTENCES, BEGINNING "LATELY, IDEOLOGICAL
MOTIVATIONS..." AND ENDING "...CAN BE SATISFACTORILY GUARAN-
TEED." SUBSTITUTE IN THEIR PLACE, "LATELY, IDEOLOGICAL MOT-
IVATIONS HAVE GAINED GROUND AT THE EXPENSE OF PRAGMATISM,
BOTH FOR POLITICAL REASONS (GROWING MILITARY DEPENDENCE ON
SOVIET UNION; DESIRE TO CONVEY PROGRESSIVE IMAGE; INCREASING
INTRUSION OF IDEOLOGY INTO DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENTS; DILUTING
ARAV AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT TO ETHIOPIA'S POTENTIAL ENEMIES)
AND BECAUSE OF AN INCREASING INDIFFERENCE TO WESTERN ATT-
ITUDES/RESPONSES TO THE RESULT. THE ISSUES ETHIOPIA CONSIDERS
CRUCIAL TO ITS INTERESTS INCLUDE: (A) SEEKING INTERNATIONAL
SUPPORT FOR ITS POSITION THAT THE ERITREAN PROBLEM IS A DOM-
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ESTIC ISSUE THAT HAS NO PLACE IN MULTILATERAL FORA; (B)
DETERRING SOMALIA FROM PURSUING ITS TERRITORIAL CLAIMS UPON
ETHIOPIA BY MILITARY MEANS; (C) ENLISTING INTERNATIONAL
PRESSURE UPON THOSE COUNTRIES SUPPORTING ETHIOPIAN DISSIDENT
ATTEMPTS EITHER TO DISMEMBER THE COUNTRY OR TO OVERTHROW
INCUMBENT GOVERNMENT; (DL PRESERVING DJIBOUTI INDEPENDENCE
PREFERABLY ON BASIS OF PRO-EHTIOPIA TILT AS OPPOSED TO PRO-

SOMALIA."

B. ADD FOLLOWING SENTENCE BETWEEN FIRST AND SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA: "TO PROMOTE ITS PROGRESSIVE IMAGE, ETHIOPIA HAS NOT ONLY JOINED WIDESPREAD AFRICAN CALL FOR MILITARY SOLUTION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, BUT HAS MOVED OUT IN FRONT BY OFFERING TO SEND ETHIOPIAN TROOPS TO FURTHER SUCH A SOLUTION."

C. NO CHANGE.

D. NO CHANGE.

E. DELETE FIRST SENTENCE. SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING: "ALTHOUGH EPMG HAS TRADITIONALLY HEARD AND STUDIED OUR VIEWS CAREFULLY, RECENT MONTHS HAVE SEEN GROWING RELUCTANCE WITHIN SOME MINISTRIES OUTSIDE OF MOFA TO LISTEN TO US STATEMENTS OF POSITION ON ISSUES AT FORTHCOMING SESSIONS OF MULTILATERAL FORA." DELETE LAST SENTENCE. SUBSTITUTE, "EPMG NO LONGER FORMALLY SOLICITS US SUPPORT, ALTHOUGH OFFICIALS WILL OCCASIONALLY LOBBY WITH US IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION ON BEHALF OF ETHIOPIAN INTEREST."

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